Message Text

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P 310234Z JAN 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

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FOR AMBASSADOR MASTERS FROM THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, EAID, ID

SUBJECT: IFI LOANS TO INDONESIA

- 1. AS YOU KNOW, WE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED YOUR EFFECTIVE EFFORT IN NEGOTIATING SUCCESSFULLY THE RECENT EXCHANGE OF SIDE-LETTERS PERTAINING TO USE OF PL-480 COMMODITIES AND PROCEEDS FOR PROJECTS AIDING THE NEEDY. INDONESIAN UNDERSTANDING OF THAT MATTER (DESPITE ITS DISTORTION IN THE PRESS), THE APPARENTLY EFFECTIVE RELEASE OF 10,000 DETAINEES LAST DECEMBER, AND RENEWED ICRC VISITS GIVE US CONTINUED HOPE THAT THE TREND ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN INDONESIA WILL CONTINUE TO IMPROVE.
- 2. HOWEVER, THE CURRENT TENSIONS IN INDONESIA INVOLVING ARRESTS OF STUDENTS AND SUSPENSION OF SOME NEWSPAPER CONFIDENTIAL

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PUBLICATIONS IS, AS YOU HAVE NOTED, CAUSE FOR CONCERN IN TERMS OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS AS WELL AS HUMAN RIGHTS. I APPRECIATE THAT YOU HAVE BEEN COUNSELING THE WISDOM OF PRUDENCE ON KEY INDONESIAN LEADERS. OUR POSITION IS DELICATE AS WE WISH TO SEE VIOLENCE AVOIDED AND FAVORABLE CURRENT AND LONG-TERM HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRESS WHILE NOT BECOMING INVOLVED IN AN INTERNAL POWER STRUGGLE. THIS

ALSO MEANS NOT BEING VIEWED BY ANY ELEMENT AS COMMITTED TO THE POLITICAL ADVANTAGE OF ANY INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP CONTESTING IN THAT STRUGGLE, BUT RECOGNITION BY ALL OF OUR

COMMITMENT TO THE USG HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY.

3. I HAVE RECOMMENDED THAT THE US IBRD EXEC DIRECTOR SUPPORT THE IBRD POWER VII LOAN WHICH WILL BE VOTED ON JAN 31. HOWEVER, OUR FUTURE STANCE ON LOANS WILL INEVITABLY BE AFFECTED BY EVENTS IN INDONESIA AND YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS. OUR CONCERNS SHOULD BE COMMUNICATED TO THE INDONESIANS IN THE MANNER YOU DEEM MOST EFFECTIVE. VANCE

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